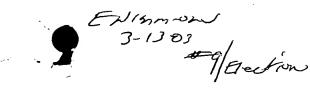
IN THE UNITE



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. patent application of:

(a) Before the Examiner

Ray Miller
(b) John A. Ricci
(c) Serial No. 09/873,805
(c) Group Art Unit 3712

Filed June 4, 2001
(c) METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
(d) February 28, 2003

FORMING OPENINGS IN A
(d) WORKPIECE
(e) Definition of:
(e) Before the Examiner
(e) John A. Ricci
(e) Froup Art Unit 3712

I hereby certify that this Correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

February 28, 2003

(Date of Deposit)

John H. Allie

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

February 28, 2003

Date of Signature

## RESPONSE TO SPECIES REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED MAR 1 1 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R370C

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 31, 2002, please consider the following response to the Species Requirement. Additionally, please find enclosed a Request for Extension of Time to and including February 28, 2003. Please provide any additional extensions of time necessary and charge any additional fees due or credit any payment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.